

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 044005
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RSPST:PS
APPROVED BY AF:RMMOOSE
NEA/ARP:JWTTWINAM (DRAFT)
NSC:RBARTHOLOMEW
S/S-0: TGMARTIN

-----097978 181940Z /43

Z O 181913Z FEB 78 ZFF6
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA FLASH
INFO WHITE HOUSE

S E C R E T STATE 044005

NODIS
WHITE HOUSE FOR BRZEZINSKI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, ET, SO

SUBJECT: HORN OF AFRICA

REFS: (A) JIDDA 1259 (NOTAL); (B) STATE 037063
(C) STATE 041087 (D) JIDDA 1166 (NOTAL)

1. IN YOUR MEETING WITH FAHD, YOU SHOULD SEEK HIS
REACTION TO OUR THINKING ON THE SHAPE OF A POSSIBLE
SETTLEMENT (REF B) AND HIS COOPERATION IN PERSUADING SIAD
OF THE NEED FOR A STATEMENT OF SOMALIA'S WILLINGNESS
TO WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS FROM THE OGADEN AS PART OF A
NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT (REF C). YOU SHOULD INFORM HIM
THAT WE ARE TAKING THE INITIATIVE IN BOTH ADDIS ABABA
AND MOGADISCIO TO MOVE THE TWO PARTIES TOWARD A
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PAGE 02 STATE 044005

NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. IN OUR VIEW, IT IS EXTREMELY
UNLIKELY THAT THE HORN CONFLICT CAN BE STOPPED OR LIMITED
BY NEGOTIATION IN THE ABSENCE OF SOMALIA'S AGREEMENT
TO WITHDRAWAL. IN MOGADISCIO, THE U.S. AMBASSADOR IS
SEEKING AN APPOINTMENT WITH SIAD TO EXPRESS OUR VIEWS
ABOUT THE NEED FOR SOMALI WITHDRAWAL. IN ADDIS ABABA,
SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL EMISSARY DAVID AARON MET WITH

MENGISTU FEBRUARY 17 AND WAS ABLE TO CLARIFY OUR POSITION IN SUPPORT OF A CEASEFIRE LINKED WITH A WITHDRAWAL OF FORCES FROM THE OGADEN LEADING TO NEGOTIATIONS FOR A STABILIZING SETTLEMENT.

2. YOU MAY TELL FAHD THAT MENGISTU ASKED AARON TO CONVEY TO PRESIDENT CARTER HIS PERSONAL ASSURANCES THAT ETHIOPIA HAS NO INTENTION OF CROSSING SOMALIA'S BORDERS OR OF INTERFERING IN ANY OTHER COUNTRY'S AFFAIRS.

3. FYI: MENGISTU'S REACTIONS LEFT AARON WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT THERE MAY BE SOME POSSIBILITY OF NEGOTIATION. MENGISTU'S MESSAGE TO CARTER ALSO STRESSED THAT SOVIET AND CUBAN FORCES WERE A TEMPORARY PHENOMENON IN ETHIOPIA, WOULD BE USED ONLY TO ENABLE ETHIOPIA TO OVERCOME THE EFFECTS OF SOMALI AGGRESSION, AND WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO INTERVENE IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THIS PORTION OF MENGISTU'S ASSURANCES IS LESS LIKELY TO APPEAR CREDIBLE TO FAHD THAN THAT CONTAINED PARA 2. ACCORDINGLY, WE BELIEVE YOU SHOULD NOT MENTION IT. WE WOULD NOT WANT FAHD TO THINK THAT WE ARE DISPOSED READILY TO ACCEPT THE WORD OF THE ETHIOPIANS ON A MATTER WHICH COULD WELL BE BEYOND THEIR CONTROL.

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PAGE 03 STATE 044005

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DRAFTED BY:IO/UNA:BJSHARP
APPROVED BY:IO/UNA:JFTEFFT
S/S-O:JTHYDEN

-----111672 220151Z /73

O 220125Z FEB 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 3572

S E C R E T STATE 044005

NODIS
FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 044005 ACTION JIDDA INFO WHITE HOUSE
DATED FEB 18:

QTE:S E C R E T STATE 044005

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WHITE HOUSE FOR BRZEZINSKI

E.O. 11652: GDS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE044005
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RSP0ST:PS
Enclosure: WHITE HOUSE FOR BRZEZINSKI
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840142-2270
Format: TEL
From: STATE AF
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780236/aaaabefc.tel
Line Count: 196
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6b1b61d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 78 JIDDA 1259, 78 STATE 37063, 78 STATE 41087, 78 JIDDA 1166
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3544571
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HORN OF AFRICA
TAGS: PBOR, ET, SO, US, SA
To: JIDDA WHITE HOUSE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6b1b61d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014